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	PROTECTIVE ORDER			CASE	No. 2:22-cv-04252			

I. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section XIII.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

II. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

This action is likely to involve trade secrets and other valuable research, development, commercial, financial, technical and/or proprietary information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecution of this action is warranted. Such confidential and proprietary materials and information consist of, among other things, confidential business or financial information, information regarding confidential business practices, or other confidential research, development, or commercial information (including information implicating privacy rights of third parties), information otherwise generally unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions, or common law. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately protect information the parties are

entitled to keep confidential, to protect consumers' privacy rights until such time a class is certified, to ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in preparation for trial, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good faith belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is good cause why it should not be part of the public record of this case. Nothing in this Order is intended to change redaction rules under the governing rules and/or case law.

III. **DEFINITIONS**

- 1. <u>Action</u>: The consolidated lawsuit bearing the name *In re Honda Idle Stop Litigation*, Case No. 2:22-cv-04252-MCS-SK (C.D. Cal.).
- 2. <u>Challenging Party</u>: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation of information or items under this Order.
- 3. <u>"CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items</u>: information (regardless of how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) and as specified above in the Good Cause Statement.
- 4. <u>Competitor/Conflicted Consultant</u>: any expert or consultant who is currently (1) an employee of an automobile manufacturer competitor ("Competitor") of any Honda entity; (2) serving as a consultant to such Competitor on matters relating to the vehicle components in issue in this litigation; or (3) otherwise conflicted out based on, *inter alia*, agency principles or governing law (collectively, "Conflicted Consultants").
- 5. <u>Counsel</u>: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their support staff).
 - 6. <u>Designating Party</u>: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or

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items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery "CONFIDENTIAL."

- 7. Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.
- Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.
- 9. "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items: extremely sensitive "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items, disclosure of which to another Party or Non-Party would create a substantial risk of serious harm that could not reasonably be avoided by less restrictive means. By way of example, and not limitation, "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" information may include economically or competitively sensitive information such as non-public design, development, or testing information (particularly that relates to recent or current model year vehicles); engineering specifications or schematics; strategic planning or pricing information; trade secrets; negotiation strategies; proprietary hardware or software or systems; and proprietary edits or customizations to software.
- 10. House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action. House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside counsel.
- Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or 11. other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.
- Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party to 12. this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which

has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

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13. <u>Party</u>: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors, employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their support staffs).

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14. <u>Producing Party</u>: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material in this Action.

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15. <u>Professional Vendors</u>: persons or entities that provide litigation support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium) and

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16. <u>Protected Material</u>: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL."

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17. <u>Receiving Party</u>: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a Producing Party.

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IV. SCOPE

their employees and subcontractors.

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The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from

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Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of Protected

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Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties or their

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Counsel that might reveal Protected Material. Any use of Protected Material at trial

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shall be governed by the orders of the trial judge. This Order does not govern the use

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V. <u>Duration</u>

of Protected Material at trial.

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Even after final disposition of this litigation (i.e. at the conclusion of any appellate proceedings, or, if no appeal is taken, when the time for filing of an appeal has run), the confidentiality obligations imposed by this Order shall remain in effect

until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs.

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Final disposition shall be deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action, with or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action, including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time pursuant to applicable law.

VI. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

- 1. Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order. Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party to sanctions. If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.
- 2. <u>Manner and Timing of Designations</u>. Except as otherwise provided in this Order, or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or produced. Discovery Material may be designated as either "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL.

Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

(a) For information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" according to the discretion of the Party or Non-Party who is making such documents or materials available. After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the "CONFIDENTIAL legend" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL legend" to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

(b) For testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify, within 30 days after the transcript is delivered, as Protected Material. All deposition testimony taken in this case shall be treated as "HIGHLY

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- CONFIDENTIAL" until the expiration of the thirtieth day after the transcript is delivered to any party or the witness. Within this time period, a Designating Party may serve a Notice of Designation to all parties of record as to specific portions of the testimony that are designated Protected Material, and thereafter only those portions identified in the Notice of Designation shall be protected by the terms of this Order.
- (c) For information produced in some form other than documentary and for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information warrants protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).
- 3. <u>Inadvertent Failures to Designate</u>. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

VII. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

- 1. <u>Timing of Challenges</u>. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's Scheduling Order.
- 2. <u>Meet and Confer.</u> The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 *et seq.* or, as applicable, under the Court's standing orders. To avoid ambiguity as to whether a challenge has been made, the written notice must identify the specified Protected Information by Bates number and

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recite that the challenge to confidentiality is being made in accordance with this specific paragraph of the Protective Order.

3. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

VIII. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

- 1. <u>Basic Principles</u>. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of Section XIV below (FINAL DISPOSITION). Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.
- 2. <u>Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:
 - (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this Action;
 - (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of

the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for 2 this Action; Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom 3 (c) disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" 5 (Exhibit A); 6 the court and its personnel; 7 (d) court reporters and their staff; (e) (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional 9 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action 10 and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be 11 Bound" (Exhibit A); 12 13 the author or recipient of a document containing the information or (g) a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the 14 information; 15 during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in 16 (h) 17 the Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party requests that the witness sign the form 18 attached as Exhibit A hereto; and (2) they will not be permitted to 19 keep any confidential information unless they sign 20 "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A), 21 unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the 22 23 court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be separately bound 24 by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as 25 permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and 26 27 any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel, (i) 28

mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

- 3. <u>Disclosure of "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL to the persons listed in Section VIII(2) (a) and (c)-(i), subject to the following additional requirements:
 - (a) Before disclosure of "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information may be made to any Competitor or Conflicted Consultant as defined herein (as defined in this Order), and in addition to the requirements set forth in Section VIII(c), counsel for defendant must be given at least ten (10) business days' prior written notice of the identity of the Competitor or Conflicted Consultant as defined herein to whom such disclosure is to be made (including his or her name, address, current job title and employer, current resume, and the names of Competitors in the past three years by which the Expert or consultant has been employed, retained or performed services for) and must not object to disclosure, but if defendant objects to disclosure, no disclosure of "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information shall be made unless and until resolution of such objection has been reached.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Receiving Party may disclose any "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items while on the record in a deposition taken in this action to a witness provided: (i) counsel in good faith believes the witness has knowledge of the matters contained in the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items (but only as to the subject matter to which the

witness is reasonably believed to have knowledge); (ii) counsel in good faith deems it necessary for the prosecution of defense of this action to show the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items to the witness; and (iii) the witness shall sign the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A) before the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items are disclosed. If a dispute arises regarding whether it is necessary for the prosecution or defense of this action to show "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items to the witness, counsel for the parties present at the deposition shall meet and confer during the deposition in an attempt to resolve the dispute in advance of the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items are disclosed to the witness. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute, the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items shall not be disclosed to the witness until such time that the Parties or Court resolves the dispute.

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IX. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

- 1. If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" that Party must:
- (a) Promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall include a copy of the subpoena or court order;
- (b) Promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a

copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

- (c) Cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected. If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action as "CONFIDENTIAL" before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.
- 2. If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

X. A Non-Party's Protected Material Sought To Be Produced In This Litigation

1. The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a No-Party in this Action and designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL." Such information produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

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- 2. In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's confidential information, then the Party shall:
 - (a) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;
 - (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated
 Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s),
 and a reasonably specific description of the information requested;
 and
 - (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-Party, if requested.
- 3. If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within 30 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

XI. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to

whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

XII. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure of a communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection, the parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated protective order submitted to the court.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.
- 2. Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.
- 3. Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material under seal is

denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

XIV. FINAL DISPOSITION

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After the final disposition of this Action, within 60 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section V (Duration) of this Order.

XV. VIOLATION

Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary sanctions.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

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1	Dated: May 11, 2023 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP			
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3		By: /s/ Eric Y. Kizirian		
4		Eric Y. Kizirian		
5		Zourik Zarifian		
_		Attorneys for Defendant, American Honda Motor Co., Inc.		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10	Dated: May 11, 2023	DICELLO LEVITT LLC		
11				
12		By: /s/ Adam J. Levitt		
13		Adam J. Levitt John E. Tangren		
14		Daniel R. Ferri		
15		Ten North Dearborn Street, Sixth Floor		
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19		C. Moze Cowper (Bar No. 326614)		
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22		Telephone: 877-529-3707		
23		mcowper@cowperlaw.com		
24		W. Daniel "Dee" Miles, III		
		H. Clay Barnett, III		
25		J. Mitch Williams BEASLEY, ALLEN, CROW,		
26		METHVIN, PORTIS & MILES, P.C.		
27		272 Commerce Street		
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PROTECTIVE ORDER

CASE No. 2:22-CV-04252

PROTECTIVE ORDER

CASE No. 2:22-CV-04252

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ATTACHMENT A 1 2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 3 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 4 IN RE HONDA IDLE STOP LITIGATION Master File No. 2:22-cv-04252-MCS-SK 5 CONSOLIDATED ACTION 6 7 THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ALL ACTIONS 8 PROTECTIVE ORDER 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 I have read the Protective Order attached hereto, and I understand its terms 1. 16 and meanings. 17 2. I further agree that I will not disclose any Protected Documents to any 18 person except as allowed by the terms of the Protective Order. 19 Upon the final determination of this Proceeding, I shall promptly destroy 3. 20 or delete all Protected Documents provided to me as well as any notes or derivations 21 thereof. I understand that my obligation to honor the confidentiality of such material 22 will continue even after this Proceeding concludes. 23 I agree that my signature below submits me to the jurisdiction of the 4. 24 United States District Court in the Central District of California, in the above captioned 25 case and binds me to the provisions of the Protective Order, including to all promises 26 undertaken in the Order, as if originally agreed by me. 27 28 CASE No. 2:22-cv-04252 PROTECTIVE ORDER

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1	I state under penalty of perjury under	er the laws	of the United	States of America
2	that the foregoing is true and correct.			
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20	PROTECTIVE ORDER		Case N	No. 2:22-cv-04252